



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Growth Management Workshops to Be Held

Northwest Georgia has the fastest growing urban population in the state outside of the Atlanta metropolitan region. This growth is affecting our communities and region. To learn how you feel about the changes occurring in your community and region, The Region One Advisory Council is sponsoring a series of five workshops. Workshops will be held in Rock Spring, Dalton, Waco, Jasper, and Calhoun between September 26th and October 4th.

With the region's population expected to double by the year 2020, Joan Young, Chairperson of the Council's Growth Management Committee, encouraged the region's leaders and residents to "Imagine if all the people in Columbus, Savannah, Macon and Athens moved to our region tomorrow! This is how many more people are expected to move into our region over the next twenty years."

Ms Young went on to say, "The question is, can our growth be managed in a way that benefits the region economically while protecting the region's character and scenic assets." Workshop attendees will have an opportunity to discuss this question as well as identify what needs to be done to maintain and enhance the quality of life that makes northwest Georgia a great place to live, work and play.

The Northwest Georgia Growth Management Initiative has been established by the Council to provide a forum for raising awareness about the need for managing growth and pro-actively guiding community change and development. When establishing the Initiative, George Woodward, Chairman of the Council stated, "The objective is to develop a common regional vision and growth management strategy that brings businesses, local governments and residents together to promote our region and maintain our quality of life."

To help the region achieve this objective, northwest Georgia business leaders, public officials and residents are encouraged to attend one of the following workshops:

Tuesday, September 26th
6:00 – 8:00 PM

Northwest Technical Institute
Room 408

Thursday, September 28th
6:00 – 8:00 PM

North Georgia Trade Center
Room A-3 (Downstairs)

Monday, October 2nd
6:00 – 8:00 PM

Haralson County Chamber of Commerce

Tuesday, October 3rd
4:00 – 6:00 PM

Appalachian Tech
The Fannin Room

Wednesday, October 4th
4:00 – 6:00 PM

The Calhoun Depot

The Region One Advisory Council is one of twelve councils established by the general assembly in 1998. The Council is a 21-member group of public and private sector leaders from the region. The Council advises the Georgia Departments of Community Affairs and Industry Trade and Tourism on the coordinated delivery of state community and economic development services.